



T H E

# Caledonian Mercury

BEING

A short Account of all the most considerable News,  
Foreign and Domestic.

Edinburgh, Monday November 18, 1723.

From the Evening Post, Nov. 12. 1723.

Since our last arrived 1 Mail from France, and 1 from Holland:  
Paris, Nov. 8.

**T**uesday last Mr. Walpole and Sir Luke Schaub, were about an Hour with the D. of Orleans.

Paris, October 10. Mr. Walpole will dispatch To-morrow an Express for Hanover, and another for London; we begin now to flatter our selves that the Congress of Cambray will take Place before the End of this Year.

Hamburg, Nov. 12. The Ministers and Adherents of the Duke of Holstein, expresse a World of Joy at the last Advices they received from Sweden, importing, That the Succession to that Crown is settled in Favour of the said Duke, by the late Diet; but add, That this Resolution is not to be publicly declared at present, for Reasons of State.

London, November 12. They write from Plymouth, That on the 7th Instant, a Fisherman found Swimming on the Stream 27 small Casks, which 'tis supposed were Sunk by the Smugglers, and had broke Loose from the Moorings in the late bad Weather.

This Day at Noon S. S. Stock was 112, 1 8th. S. S. Annuity 99, 3 qrs: Bank 120. India 136, one qr. African 13, 1 qr. York Buildings 12, 3 qrs:

From

*From the Whitehall Evening Post.*

*Petersburgh, Oct. 23.* Since his Majesty's Return to this Place, 'tis said that his Journey to Moscow is now put off to the Middle of next Month, and 'tis thought that the young Czarowitz is to go along with him. The Persian Ambassador is set out for Tauris, highly satisfied with the Success of his Negotiations; but the Articles of the Treaty concluded between the Czar and the young Sophi are kept very secret. The Publication thereof, being strictly forbidden, to prevent giving Umbrage to the Porte, in order to avoid, if possible, an open Rupture with the same, which might prove very prejudicial to the Czar's Concerns in Europe. The like Secrecy is observed in all the Transactions at the Court of Holstein: so that the Foreign Ministers cannot penetrate into the same. M. Gotrofsky, Commissary General, is arrived here after some Months stay in Livonia, and was immediately admitted to an Audience. 'Tis said he is to set out for Persia with secret Instructions for our Governours there, and is to continue in our Army. Two Expresses are arrived here from Derbent and Astracan, by way of Moscow. Some of the State Prisoners here have lately been pardoned, and others sent to Siberia; amongst the Latter is an Ecclesiastick.

*Hamburgh, Nov. 5.* Our Directors of Trade are very busie about the New East India Company in the Austrian Netherlands, in order to examine thoroughly, and in what Manner they are to behave themselves with respect to the Recommendation of the Imperial Court: Mean while 'tis thought, that seeing all those that are concerned in the Trade of this City, are inclin'd to keep up the good Understanding and Correspondence with England and Holland: All the fair Offers made by the Directors of the Ostend Company will prove in vain, and that none of our Traders will come into their Measures.

*London, Nov. 9.* Last Week some ill designing Persons mischievously cut down about 50 young Trees, belonging to his Royal Highness at Richmond.

We hear a Silver Mine has lately been discovered in Derbshire, on the Estate of Mr. Wagstaffe, an eminent Person near Woodhead in that County: A Sample of the Oar is brought to Town, and a Pound Weight of it is said to produce an Ounce of Silver.

We hear that a Scheme is laid before their Excellencies the Lords Regent, and the Right Honourable the Lords of the Admiralty, Trade and Plantations for destroying the Pyrates in the American Seas: And we hear it will shortly be published, and submitted to the Judgement of all Persons concerned in Trade and Commerce.

*From the Evening Post.*

*Paris, Nov. 9.* The King kept the Festival of St. Hubart on the 3d Instant at St. Germain en Laye, where his Majesty arrived at ten a Clock in the Forenoon, having dined or rather breakfasted very heartily, before his setting out at Versailles. The Hunting Rendezvous on this Occasion, was at the Lodge in the Forrest of St. Germain; the Chace began at Noon, and lasted till the Afternoon at four a Clock: His Majesty took abundance of Pleasure, constantly keeping up with the Dogs, and they vigorously pursuing the Stag, which after an hundred subtile Turnings, was at last taken with great Difficulty. The Chace appeared extraordinary fine and pompous, almost all the Noblemen and Ladies of the Court being in rich hunting Dresses, and the Latter in Amazonian Habits. The Day proved very clear which drew a vast Concourse of People from Paris, Versailles, St. Germain and the neighbouring Towns, filling almost the Forrest with their Numbers.

*From the Weekly Journal, or Saturday's Post.*

They write from Rome, that the Affairs of Cardinal Alberoni have taken so favourable a Turn, that the great Men in that City are striving who shall be first



first in making their Compliments and paying their Court to him; he is newly gone to sojourn a while at his Country Seat, where he has been visited by great Numbers of Foreign Ministers, and other Persons of the first Rank, who not long since seem'd to be his Enemies; This extraordinary Change in their Conduct, looks as if they believed the Predictions of the Polish Astrologer, which we took notice of before.

They write from Constantinople, That by Expresses from Astracan which arrived at Petersburgh, they have Advice, that since the taking of Baku, the Troops of Meriweys, so far from attempting any thing, have not dared to come near them.

They write from Paris that an Express is arrived there of the Death of Cosmo de Medicis III. of that Name, Great Duke of Tuscany, on the 31<sup>st</sup> of October, N. S. in the 82 Year of his Age; and is succeeded by his Son John Gaston, Born in the Year 1671. The late Great Duke was a Prince of great Piety, and strict Virtue, Affable and Courteous to all Strangers that had the Happiness of visiting his Court, and a true Father of his People, of a most polite Taste in Arts and Sciences; he particularly understood Painting, Sculpture and Medals and made the best Collection of Antiquities of any Prince in Europe; he had visited all the Courts in Europe in his Youth, and among the rest, the Court of England, in the Reign of CHARLES II. His Highness landed at Pool in Dorsetshire, and his Majesty King CHARLES sent Mr. Earl; afterwards Lieutenant General, with other Gentlemen of the Court to compliment and receive him; the General, who had traveled Italy, considering that England could not vie with that Country for Buildings, Statues or Paintings, yet had a Mind to surprize this Prince with a sight more Glorious in it self, and therefore desired the Gentlemen and Farmers to drive their Sheep along the Road thro' which he was to pass, so that he travel'd for 40 Miles thro' Flocks of Sheep, which his Highness taking Notice of, and expressing some Admiration at the strangeness of the Sight; The General let him know, those were the Wealth of England, alluding to the Woolen Manufactures of the Kingdom. The Prince was so well pleased with this Reception, that he frequently told the Story to Strangers even to the end of his Days. The said Prince Cosmo III. succeeded his Father Cosmo II. in 1673, and married Lovisa, Daughter to Gaston Duke of Orleans, Son to Henry IV. of France, and Brother to Lewis the XIII. by whom he had two Sons and a Daughter. John Gaston the present Duke, married in the Year 1697, one of the Daughters of the Duke of Sax Lawenburg, but an unhappy Accident has rendered him incapable of having Issue, so that the Family of the Medicis must become extinct at the Death of this Duke, which is likely to embroil the Affairs of Europe very much, from the different Pretensions that is made to the Succession of the Dukedom.

*From the Flying Post:*

*The Death of the Great Duke of Tuscany, which is now confirmed, is an Event in which all the European, especially the Maritime Powers, are so nearly concerned, that we are easily perswaded to insert the following Account of the Succession and History of their Great Dukes, from the very first who bore that Title to the present Sovereign of that State.*

**M**Achiavel and other Historians tell us, that this Duchy, from the Time of Charles the Great to the Year 1215 followed the Fate of the rest of Italy, and submitted to their respective Conquerors, kept themselves in Peace; but then they fell into Divisions about Models of Government, which they frequently changed; Sometimes the Nobles fell out among themselves, and sometimes with the Citizens, and the richest of them frequently with the inferior sort. This occasioned Murthers, Banishments, and the Dispersion of Families, wherein the best generally suffered most. Yet still the State preserved it self; and after they had expell'd the Faction of the Gibelins, they were able in the Expedition against the City of Arezzo to send out 12000 Foot and 1200 Horse, carried on a War of five Years against Philip Visconti Duke of Milan, in which they spent five Millions and a half of Florins; and when that War was ended, besieged and took Lucas.

They

They continued a Free State till about 1418, that John de Medicis, one of the Ancestors of the late Duke (who were Merchants, and Men of great Interest in the Commonwealth) became so Rich and Potent; and acquired so much Reputation by defending the People against the Nobles, that the Sovereignty was in a Manner put into his Hand.

He was succeeded by his Son Cosmo the Great, call'd *The Deliverer of his People, and Father of his Country*; for he was the Head of the Popular Faction, and being recalled from Banishment, was elected Chief of the Republick in 1434, expelled the Faction of the Nobles, and governed the Republick with great Praise, encouraging Learning, and leaving a noble Library considerable for Greek Manuscripts. He also enlarged their Boundaries by taking several Towns, and died in 1464, aged 75, after a long and glorious Administration.

His Son Peter succeeded him, who divided the Government betwixt his two Sons, Julian and Laurence; but the People being afraid of their Liberty, and that the Sovereignty would become Hereditary, put the Administration into the Hands of the Family of Soderani, who knowing the Fickleness of the Multitude, devolved it again upon the two Brothers. Then the Family of the Pazzi conspired against them, and killed Julian in 1478; but Laurence escaped to Naples, where he made a League with King Frederic, repulsed the Enemy, and was declared Gonfalonier, or Chief Magistrate of the Commonwealth, which he discharged to the Satisfaction and Honour of Florence both at Home and Abroad. He was stiled Lorenzo the Great, *the Father of Learning*. Bajazet, the Grand Seignior, sent him one of the Assassins that had murdered his Brother Julian. He vanquished Volterra; and with admirable Address discharged himself of his Dispute with Pope Sixtus IV. got a great many Manuscripts from Greece, loved learning, and was a Protector of it. He died in 1492, but 44 Years old, so much lamented that the common People drowned his Physicians in a Well.

[ *This to be Continued in our next.* ]

*From the Evening Post, Nov. 12.*

*Paris, Nov. 17.* 'Tis talk'd here, That the D. of Noailles is nam'd for the Embassy to Rome; The Duke de la Force for that of England; and the Count de Salluage for that of Spain.

*From the London Gazette, Nov. 12.*

*Copenhagen, Nov. 9.* The Lord Glenorchy, Envoy Extraordinary from the King of Great Britain, having received his Majesty's Leave to attend him, will set out from hence the 13th Instant for Hanover and Gohre.

*Cambray, Nov. 11. N.S.* Yesterday being the Birth-day of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, the Lord Polwarth gave a very magnificent Entertainment to all the Ministers and other Persons of Quality, of both Sexes at this Place.

*Paris, Nov. 15.* This Day the Court went into Mourning for 3 Weeks for the Great D. of Tuscany; the D. of Orleans and his Family will wear it Six Weeks, on account of his Relation to the Deceased.

*From the Whitehall Evening Post, Nov. 12.*

*Petersburg, October 22.* Their Imperial Majesties, who set out the 13th for Cronstot, attended by the Court, returned hither the 19th, after laying the first Stone of a new Fortrefs, which is to be built at Cronstot.

*Rome, October 23.* Cardinal Alberoni is gone to Modena, by leave of the Pope. We have a Report, That several Robbers are seiz'd at Loretto, for having formed a Design to carry off the Treasure.

*Newstadt, Novemb. 10.* The 28 we had such violent Rains and Torrents of Water, that divers People, Cattle, &c. were destroy'd, and one very melancholly



choly Circumstance happened in particular, which was, that there being a Wedding in a Lordship near this Place, as the new married Couple were returning home from Church, accompanied by their Parents and Friends, and were passing a Bridge, where the Water was very high and rapid, the Bridge was carried away with all the People upon it, in such a Manner, that of the whole Company, only the Men saved themselves: All the Women, among whom was she that was newly married, being drowned, without any Body being able to give them the least Succour.

*Amsterdam November 16.* They write from Petersburg, That the Empress of Russia had given 8000 Rubels for building at Petersburg, a 2d Lutheran Church.

*Wye's Letter verbatim, London, Novem. 12.*

**T**HEY write from Petersburg, That on the 20th past the Persian Ambassador set out thence on his Return home. By the Treaty which that Minister has concluded with the Czar, the Sophi yields to his Czarish Majesty the entire Possession and Property of the following Places, *viz.* Schirvan, Gilan, Tabristan and Esterabat:

'Tis observed, that the Czar most commonly makes handsome Advantages of his Wars. This Monarch, in pursuance of the above Agreement, has given Orders for hastening the March of more Troops towards Astracan, whence they are to be transported to Derbent. On the other hand, we are advised from Constantinople, That the Grand Visier had ordered 6000 more Janizaries to march; and that vast Preparations of War are continued to be made, particularly on the Black Sea.

Letters from Stockholm advise, That on the 27th past the Minister of the D. of Holstein had a private Audience of the King, and delivered to his Majesty a Letter of Thanks from that Duke, on account of the Title of Royal Highness which has lately been granted to him. The aforesaid Minister also presented a Letter on the same Subject to the Senate; and 'tis assured, the Affair of the Succession was finally agreed on before the breaking up of the States of that Kingdom: But the Resolutions taken therein have not been made public, nevertheless 'tis the general Opinion, That it has been determined in favour of the above named Duke.

Advices from Paris relate, That on the 9th Instant the Duke de Noailles arrived there, and the next Day the Duke of Orleans introduc'd him to the King. They adde, that on the same Day two Expresses were dispatched by Mr. Horatio Walpole, one to Hanover and another to London. Mean-time we are yet uncertain when the Cambray Congress will be opened; which however, some think, may be before the End of this Year.

Letters from Berlin give an Account, That the King of Prussia design'd to set out the 9th Instant for the Ghore, to take his formal Leave of the K. of Great Britain; but the Queen falling in Labour that Night, and being brought to bed of a Princess, deferred his Journey till the next Day.

His Britannic Majesty and the King of Prussia have received reiterated Letters from the Emperor, in which he recommends to them, as Directors of the Circle of the Lower Saxony, to take Possession of the Dutchy of Ploen for the Prince of Retwisch, which 'tis thought will be put in Execution in a Day or two at farthest: But we do not yet hear of any Redress given to the Grievances of the Protestants in the Empire, or that his Imperial Majesty will come to the Accommodation, so much solicited for by Great Britain and Holland, of the Affair relating to the India Company in the Austrian Netherlands.

Very fine Fireworks are preparing, in order to be display'd before the Royal Exchange on the Evening of the King's Return thro' this City. After which, 'tis still believed, there will be some new Promotions, and amongst the rest, we hear that Mr. Talbot, Son to the Bishop of Durham, and who is reckoned a very great Chancery-man, will be advanced to a certain high Post.

**W<sup>e</sup>**

We hear that the Lord Lechmere is recovered of his late Indisposition.

The Lord Abergavenny is very ill of the Small Pox.

We have Advice, That on the 17th Instant the Elector of Cologn departed this Life at Bon.

The Close of the last Week ended the Hearing of a Cause in Chancery between the Executors of William Waller, late Steward of the Mines belonging to that Company, and Sir Humphrey Mackworth, which had been depending several Years, and held five Days in hearing, and was at last determined in favours of Sir Humphrey.

We have an Account, That on the 18th of September last the *Friend* indeed of Bristol was lost at St. Christopher's in a Storm, with two London Ships.

The Weather is so favourable, that we have very surprizing Accounts of the fine Appearance of Flowers in most of the Gardens of this City, as fine as in the Spring, and of Rooks building their Nests and sitting on them as in March; so that the Birds seem to have mistaken themselves, and to have forgot their natural Instinct.

Ed. Nov. 18. This Morning the Race for the City Plate was run for, and won by the Rt. Honourable the Earl of Rothes.

Haddingtoun, November 15, 1723.

Best Wheat, 7 l. 3 sh. per Boll, 2d. Ditto, 7 l. 3d. Ditto, 6 l. 14 sh.  
 Best Bear, 7 l. 3 sh. per Boll, 2d. Ditto, 7 l. 3d. Ditto, 6 l. 12 sh.  
 Best Oats, 6 l. 2 sh. per Boll, 2d. Ditto, 5 l. 18 sh. 3d. Ditto, 5 l. 12 sh.  
 Best Pease, 5 l. 4 sh. per Boll, 2d. Ditto, 5 l. 2 sh. 3d. Ditto, 5 l.

## ADVERTISEMENT

\* To be exposed to Sale by public voluntary Roup, together or in Parcels, at John's Coffee-house, on Tuesday the 3d of December next, at 3 after Noon, two Dwelling-houses at the Head of Peebles-wynd, of 78 L. yearly Rent; Some Shops and Cellars at the Head of Niddry's Wynd, 406 L. yearly Rent; A House and Cellar at the Head of the Mint-house-clofs, 180 L. yearly Rent; The Half of three Dwelling-houses and a little Shop at the Head of the West-bow, 74 L. yearly Rent; A Tenement on the South Side of the Head of the Canongate, 240 L. yearly; The Half of a Tenement on the North Side of the Common Clofs in the Canongate, about 60 L. yearly; A Lodging in the great new Stone Tenement in the Fish-market-clofs, 312 L. yearly; The Fourth Part of the Printing-house there, 54 L. yearly; and the Half of three Dwelling-houses and of a laigh House and Shop, adjacent to the North End of that Tenement, 90 L. yearly: With some Houses, Malt-barns, Well, Kih and Pertinents, in Matthewson's Wynd in Leith, Sett in Feu and Tack, 250 L. yearly Rent, and 16 L. of Feu; and a very valuable long Tack of the Paper Mill of Pennicuik: AND ALSO some Acres, Houses and Cows Grass at Corstorphine, 222 L. yearly, holding Feu for 3 L. Feu Duty; and two Storeys of Boyd's Land near the Nether-bow, 294 yearly. The Particulars of the Rental and the Progress of the Writs, are to be seen at the Writing Chamber of Alexander Baillie Writer in Edinburgh, the 2d Door of the Turnpike above the aforesaid Coffee-house.

† That there is to be set in Tack for seven Years to come, the Mansion House of Meadowbank, consisting of five Fire Rooms, and sundry Conveniences, lying seven Miles West from Edinburgh, in the Parish of Kirknewton, having a good Tard, with Office Houses, as Barn, Byre, Brew-house, &c. all in good Repair; together with twentyseven Acres of arable Ground, and three of Meadow, besides as much Pasturage as will maintain four Horses and four Kine all Summer over. The Ground both arable and pasturage, lying contiguous to the House, and inclosed with a dry Stone Dike: The House beautified with some young Planting: The Entry to the Land to commence presently, and to the Houses, at Whitsunday first. Any that incline to take it, may call for Edward Burd of Ormiston, Writer in Edinburgh, at the Laigh Coffee House, betwixt the Hours of Ten and Twelve Forenoon, or at William Henderson Merchant his House, in the Foot of Forrester's Wind.

E D I N B U R G H:

Printed for Mr. WILLIAM ROLLAND,  
 by WILLIAM ADAMS Jun. at his  
 Printing-House over against the General-Post-Office.